









# MOST WONDERFUL WEAPON IN THE WORLD

By Piers  
England

## IT'S A SECRET!

AT A HUNDRED MILES FROM TRAFALGAR SQUARE STANDS A NEWSVENDOR CALLED TITCH—A SHORT, SOLEMN-FACED MAN IN A BROWN OVERCOAT WHICH WAS MADE FOR A BIGGER MAN. THIS MAN TITCH IS A WATCHFUL, SHREWD, CHEERFUL, TALKATIVE OLD PERSON. I HAVE KNOWN HIM FOR YEARS. HE NEVER CHANGES.

You may employ the analytical observation of a Sherlock Holmes; I defy you to find a hundredth of an inch of difference in the way his clothes are buttoned or his moustache tied, from day to day.

He is more or less clean-shaven. I had occasion to pass him about six times a day for more than a year, but I have never seen him quite free of a kind of sleeky, whitish stubble that amounts to a normal day's growth on a man's chin.

Titch knows everybody and faces nobody. He is an indispensible Londoner. Once he called Lord Baldwin "Cock." "Hi, Cock, everything all right?" was what he said to that eminent man.

Stanley Baldwin replied: "Quite all right, thank you very much." He had the good sense not to ignore Titch, who the most awe-inspiring of the commoners of Britain.

Titch is in possession of a Secret Weapon. It is there for Hitler to steal it. It is there for the tanks to come and not ravish it, and a million pounds could not buy it, and all the spies in the world would never convert it into a code. I am speaking of the British Sense of Humour.

It is unexplainable. You see it

cats and dogs, he says: "Lovely day, ain't it?" He hides what he feels under a jest.

Put him in a trench in No-Man's-Land and drop a mass of high explosive near him, and he will call it "Jack Johnson." Present him with the white wings of France and he will call them "Pleasant look." Show him the face of Defeat and he will chuck up "V" for Victory. Give him a victory, and he will shake a

He is simply being funny. Nobody but Briton can ever quite understand it.

I swear to you that if these islands sank into the sea tomorrow the last man, holding his nose above the rising waters, would say something like this: "Well... this is nice!"

Thank God for it.

I HAVE often tried to put myself in the position of a foreign agent watching British morale. It's a hopeless position to put oneself in.

For example: At Christmas, 1941, I found myself near a bottle of stout, and I took a drink. He was home on leave.

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## DOE BELLS TO

Churchill's plan of action shocks Germany. It will have the effect of... And I expect his new line in home affairs will be equally surprising. In short, with the very speed of a lightning bolt, he will be making some

Two sets of first-rate successes come from the impetuous war moves of the Prime Minister. The first comprises the new line in home affairs which Britain is to make. The second will prove more than the return of two dispossessed monarchs to their thrones and deposition of another.

"This much can be said now, that 'peace plans' and all the rest of it will be reshaped violently by these events. Indeed, a conference which is about to be held will find its conclusions in flux. An abrupt end to speculation and covert maneuvering will be made by the policy decided.

Further, I suggest that behind the scenes of recent held conferences a date-line has been drawn concerning the lesser Axis partners' walk-outs. You can expect sensational news from Berlin will have no sensible answer to their thrones and deposition of another.

"I mentioned this phase as one of intense acrimony, and the transition now taking place will prove difficult. But it will be made. As I forecast, a vasty different conception of leadership is imminent. Something not dissimilar

to the one I mentioned in the past will be taking place in U.S.A. Totality of war effort will produce not later than May-June, another totalities.

You may reckon this period as containing war events of supreme significance. I cannot for one moment believe that Germany can withstand their blows.

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The Thirty-ninth Annual General Meeting of F. W. Woolworth and Co., Ltd., will be held in London on February 15, 1943.

The net profit at £3,000,000 is £700,000, which is the highest in the history of the company, and is directly attributable to the successful management and continued reduction in selling prices.

The financial stability of your company is of first consideration with your directors. Each year in the past we have substantially increased the balance carried forward, which annual increase could otherwise have been used for other purposes.

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"WE GAVE OUR BEST . . . NO MAN CAN GIVE MORE"

# CONVOY FOUGHT U-BOATS AND PLAYS FOR 6

BOUND FOR RUSSIA, A GREAT CONVOY STEAMED OUT ACROSS THE NORTH SEA WITH A VERY VALUABLE CARGO. U-BOATS LURKED UNDER THE SEA TO ATTACK IT . . . NAZI TORPEDO BOMBERS WAITED AT THEIR BASES FOR ORDERS TO BOMB IT.

## Thousands Die In Mass Executions

JUGOSLAV circles in Ankara yesterday reported that 27,000 Jugoslavs suspected of being sympathizers of General Mihailovich had been executed since September in Belgrade alone. The reports said that 300 were shot in Belgrade on December 24, and that 300 were shot in the village of Jajinci on Christmas Day.

Mass executions of "hostages" were taking place in Serbia, and it was added, the military of Josip Stavan food stocks by the Germans had brought the country to the verge of famine, especially in the towns.

### Norway

SIXTY had been conducting exercises in the use of hand weapons, sixteen Norwegians from Kristiansund have been sentenced to death by a military court in Oslo, according to a Stockholm report.

It is now revealed that in December the Germans declared they had discovered an extensive secret military organization in activities.

### Finland

SIXTEEN persons were arrested in Tammerfors on charges of espionage according to a Swedish News Agency message quoted by Moscow Radio.

The person attempted to resist and was charged with a charge of espionage.

## "THE 30-SECOND BREAKFAST IS THE FARE FOR ME,"

say bus conductors Mrs. Wallis, of Turnbridge Wells.

FOR nearly a year now, blue-eyed, fair-haired Mrs. Wallis (on left) has been a bus conductress. Her husband is in the army, her small son is a nursery.

"It's hard work all right," Mrs. Wallis says, "but Kellogg's Corn Flakes give me the energy I need to run up and down all those stairs all the time. And I like Kellogg's—those big golden flakes are so crisp."

"—and see how Kellogg's save time and fuel!"

56. a packet containing 10 big breakfasts. Only 2 points This is the second week of Ration Period No. 2.

BUSY BUBBLES HELPING HAND

**WE GIVE YOU MORE WASHING PER COUPON!**

UP TO TWICE AS MUCH

Think of the wonderful saving in your soap when you use the new Oxydol Busy Bubbles do up to twice as much washing per coupon!

Only that, clothes come sparkling clean, not a speck of dirt is left. Because Oxydol is so safe so easy on clothes—you save your precious clothes washed in Oxydol's famous Busy Bubble rather than so much longer.

OLD soap 1 coupon; 70, 100 or 150 cents. A Great Product. At your shop.

**Oxydol**

REMEMBER DON'T FORGET

This is the second week of Ration Period No. 2. Buy Oxydol now to keep Mrs. Mudd's receipt for the next week's coupon.

THOMAS HADLEY AND COMPANY LIMITED, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Eat a regular slice of crisp

and carry on with good digestion

Controlled price 10d. per pkt. (as prescribed).

RYVITA IS MADE ENTIRELY FROM HIGH-GROWN RYE AND THEREFORE USES NO SHIPPING SPACE

**FLU GONE KILLS PAIN QUICKER**

At the first sign of Flu or a cold take KILLER, take the little white tablets at first—preferably with a glass of water—and you will be better by morning. Keep KILLER handy always.

31d. 7d. 15d. 10d.

Putting Their Shoulders To It!

Morrison Plan For Peace Without Hangover

# Rationing To Stay: Higher Standard Of Living



A shortage of pilots in the U.S. has presented mothers with a new infant transport problem. Some have solved it by carrying their babies on a papoose board strapped to the back after the manner of Indian women.

MR. HERBERT MORRISON, Home Secretary and Minister of Home Security, forecast yesterday what life will be like after the war. This is what he prophesied:—

Rationing will go on; prices and raw materials will be controlled.

We shall plan a higher standard of living; our exports must be greatly increased.

A Charter of Childhood and a Charter of Motherhood must be worked out.

Mr. Morrison was speaking at Nottingham.

He said that he hoped the "mad, mad, silly time" in economics, and in other ways of life, after the last war would never be repeated.

This time we want to switch over from war economy to peace economy as quickly as we can but we must know what we are doing and without a hangover without a morning after the night before.

"We must have rationing in moderate form for the sake of fairness at home and to keep the ship of State on an even keel. We must have raw material controls to make certain that our exports are not sold at a disadvantage at home various commodities so where they will most need it in building back to sound peace basis.

### ASTRONOMICAL!

We shall also want price control, with which there will be no doubt a great deal of dissatisfaction at a time when victory will be bringing to us a new suffering severely from wartime shortages.

We should have good prospects to look forward to. Very likely, as a result of the war, we shall have a new era of scientific work, it would go on afterwards more readily than ever. We should have new substances to work with, new materials growing up to help us.

"We shall find Nature more submissive than we will have ever before in human history."

We had learned much better how to make our money system our servant instead of a cruel taskmaster.

### MUMBO-JUMBO

"We are not likely to let a decorative man's will dominate our constructive energies in the interest of some mystical Mumbo-Jumbo about pre-war traditions or golden values."

We have learned a great deal more how to control our employment.

We have at our hands all the technical means to ensure prosperity.

"We shall know enough to be able to work to plan, to produce and to make it yield a higher standard of living instead of yielding for millions of people only unemployment and want."

If we deal firmly with the forces of selfishness and sectionalism, wherever they are found, which would be the narrow and misguided purposes to come between us and our future, we can look to that future with hope.

### FOUR POINTS

Considering the international economic issue, Mr. Morrison stressed four points.

If we want to keep up our standard of living, we shall have to go on importing on much the same scale as before.

We shall have much less interest in foreign investments.

It is doubtful whether our shipping and financial services will bring us in the income they did.

We shall have to increase our exports of goods to the value of several hundreds of millions of pounds.

"The truth is that there lies before all nations the possibility of a tremendous expansion in world trade as in industry at home."

This presents to us in Britain the task of ensuring that our export industries are as efficient and active as possible.

We shall need to broaden the whole conception of public policy in relation to the export trades after the war. We shall need to work upon the basis of a much more realistic picture of the State and industry in which each has right but, each also has important obligations to the other.

Mr. Morrison, referring to the decline in birthrate, said that to maintain the population near the level of 50 million we must secure a considerable increase in the size of the average family—some experts said a 2.5 increase.

The task of building a social order in which there is an increase in the birthrate provides one of the most important problems of the future.

### RAF Saw Troops At Drill, Then—

## MUSTANGS DISMISSED NAZI PARADE

MUSTANGS coming home from their training trip to Holland, Belgium and Northern France on Friday wound up the day with an attack on an airfield where about 100 Nazi troops were drilling.

The soldiers were standing stiffly and did not seem to notice the Mustangs as they swooped down.

As one of the pilots put it, "We dismissed the parade."

The Mustangs attacked the barracks at Amersfoort, the Mustangs made off to a safe place from 1,000 feet, firing their guns till they were almost at tree-top height.

As soon as they had made one attack they started another and repeated the operation. Each attack made at least four such attacks, at the end of which smoke was coming from the barracks but, and troops running for cover.

### TRAIN BUSTING

Pilots over Northern France reported "Highly exciting time. The squadron commander who attacked a goods train we definitely put it out of business."

"Our next train near Abbeville was also well put out."

In the neighbourhood of Amiens another Mustang, operating alone, in about 15 minutes attacked two trains, three trucks and two trucks respectively, and shot up some electric pylons near a siding.

After a few bursts at the pylons there were some very large flames which confirmed my shot had struck home," the pilot said.

### Continued from Page One

## GERMANS LOSE FOUR TOWNS

In one sector, Red Army men routed a strong German column, pursued it and captured a town where the food dumps were found. Only one more big effort is needed to clear up the German bridgehead in the North Caucasus.

Apart from some German troops which were cut off near Krasnodar, the Kuban capital, the main German forces are bottled up along the coastal strip between Novorossiysk and Krasnodar.

Red Army tanks and mobile troops are steadily advancing from the east, while waiting of the Black Sea Fleet sweep down from the north, and the army is cutting the enemy's coastal positions.

The only way of escape left for the Germans is across the whole of the Straits to the Crimea, but any attempt at a Dunkirk will be closely watched by the Black Sea Fleet and the Russian Air Force.

Thousands of Germans were killed in the final battle for Krasnodar, which was fought in blind snowstorms.

Working was deep in the icy waters of the Kuban, and under enemy fire, sappers built a bridge across which Russian troops streamed to storm their way into the city. A great quantity of booty was seized in this fighting.

Only that, clothes come sparkling clean, not a speck of dirt is left. Because Oxydol is so safe so easy on clothes—you save your precious clothes washed in Oxydol's famous Busy Bubble rather than so much longer.

### ARMY OF CIVILIANS

Behind the Red Army's rolling offensives along the valleys of the southern front, Russian civilians are dragging their possessions across the snow and in the teeth of icy winds, indifferent to occasional Russian planes overhead.

These retreating civilians, in the words of one eyewitness, march forward like another legions.

Miners of the Donetz coal country, who for months have been fighting in guerrilla bands, are fleeing back to the recaptured mining villages and are already working to get the mines going again. Production of coal is expected to be resumed shortly.

A bank, public house, grocer's, fruiterer's, first-aid station, police station and a girl's school were among the buildings damaged.

### Shops, Bank Hit In Day Raid

West England coast town were last night backing their way through the wreckage of a butcher's shop and a drapery store in a search for possible victims of a daylight raid.

It was feared that some casualties as well members of the staff were still trapped.

The town was crowded with shoppers when four raiders swooped down from the sky.

Including a historic row of four houses built in 1646, suffered damage, and many buildings numbered only four.

A bank, public house, grocer's, fruiterer's, first-aid station, police station and a girl's school were among the buildings damaged.

### DANISH SHIP TORPEDOED

Rome Radio, quoted by Reuters, said a few bursts at the submarine has torpedoed a Danish ship in Spanish waters. The crew were saved.—Reuters.

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### NUFFLED CURE FOR WORLD'S ILLS

One inspiration of Lord Nuffield's is the fact that the world is a better place than it was in 1914. The world is a better place than it was in 1914. The world is a better place than it was in 1914.

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Jap Picked On Wrong Name For Hon. Sarge

A TOUGH British sergeant, on jungle patrol in Burma a few days ago, was surprised to hear a voice call out: "Come over here, Daphne. I want to have a honourable talk with you."

But "Daphne" knew something about the Japanese and was wise to this favourite trick of calling out English names never had the hope of trapping tough sergeants.

So the voice which was unable to tell the difference between English boys' and girls' names never had its honourable conversation.

An honourable hand grenade was thrown, and the voice now has to content itself talking to the honourable ancestors.

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